



Top enlisted leaders address Airmen’s concerns

Staff Sgt. Melanie Streeter
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The chief master sergeant of the Air Force joined command chief master sergeants from Air Force major commands at a forum during the Air Force Association’s 2004 Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition here Monday.

“As I travel around the Air Force, I (stress) that one of the most important parts of our jobs as senior enlisted leaders is communication,” said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray.

That communication was the focus of the command chiefs’ forum, where the audience had an opportunity to ask questions and get answers from today’s enlisted leaders.

One hot topic was force reshaping, with audience members wondering whether shrinking forces would result in the same difficulties faced after the drawdown in the early ‘90s.

“You know, right now we are over-strength, and retention is great,” said Chief Master Sgt. Karl Meyers from Air Education and Training Command. “Obviously, we need to make cuts. AETC is taking on one part of that to reduce the force without doing it the way we did in the ‘90s.”

This AETC role mainly focuses on enlist-



Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray joined command chief master sergeants from Air Force major commands at a forum during the Air Force Association’s 2004 Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition Monday.

ing fewer new Airmen in the next year. Chief Meyers said only some career fields will see new recruits this year, with others having to wait until ideal numbers are reached across the board.

To make sure problems do not exist in the

long term for those career fields that have to wait out the year, AETC and Air Force Personnel Center officials will watch retainment trends at the three- and five-year marks, the usual timeframe for re-enlistment.

Another training-related question revealed

concerns about Airmen’s role in the war on terror. As more and more Airmen see combat up close and personal, the Air Force is finding ways to prepare them for it.

“Our Air Force has transformed as this war takes a deeper and deeper toll on our forces,” said Chief Master Sgt. Gary Coleman from U.S. Air Forces in Europe. “Our sister services are running out of personnel, and we’re stepping in to fill those spots.”

Because equipping and training Airmen to carry out the mission is important, Chief Coleman said it is a tough call to decide where training resources should be spent. The Air Force needs to be careful to strike a balance, and just where that balance is depends on what new roles and missions the Air Force takes on.

Air Mobility Command Chief Master Sgt. Michael Kerver said his command is taking on this training challenge with a program called Eagle Flag.

Eagle Flag prepares support Airmen to do their jobs in a deployed environment.

“It used to be [that] unless you were a cop or [were] civil engineer or services Airmen, you got next to no training in the expeditionary environment,” Chief Kerver said.

The mobility command’s goal is to have all Airmen attend Eagle Flag during their air and space expeditionary force training cycle.

Lieutenant colonels, colonels eligible for time-in-grade waiver

Tech. Sgt. David Jablonski
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — Air Force officials are again offering lieutenant colonels and colonels a reduction of the time-in-grade requirement for retirement.

Reduction of the three-year time-in-grade requirement for those officers to retire in their current grade dropped to no less than two years.

Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche authorized personnel officials May 6 to reduce the time restriction. That offer reopened Aug. 12 for fiscal 2005.

“We remain focused on solving our end-strength problem through voluntary programs,” said Maj. John Silverman, chief of Air Force retirement and separation policy.

“The recent law change allowing officers to retire with a minimum of two years time in grade is reflective of that effort and was another tool in our kit for which we wanted to take advantage,” Major Silverman said. “Although relatively small, this program helps us toward meeting our mandated Air Force ends strength. As part of the force shaping, we also opened a similar opportunity for our retirement eligible

senior noncommissioned officers, waving up to 18 months of their obligated service commitment for putting on a new stripe.”

Retiring officers must meet the following criteria:

— Must be a lieutenant colonel or colonel on active duty with at least two years and less than three years time in grade on the requested retirement date to retire under this authority.

— Must have served at least 20 years of total active federal military service and 10 years commissioned service by the requested retirement date to be eligible to request a reduced time-in-grade retirement.

— Must have served satisfactorily in grade.

— All Air Force specialty codes may apply.

— Deployed people may apply; however, the requested retirement date must be at least 30 days following their return to home station. Member must retire not later than Sept. 1, 2005. Deployment periods will not be curtailed.

— Waivers of active-duty service commitments will be given according to the limited active-duty service-commitment waiver program.

Officers under investigation for alleged misconduct, pend-

ing the disposition of an adverse personnel action for alleged misconduct, or recalled to active duty, are ineligible for the waiver.

The number of people permitted to retire with the reduced time in grade is limited to no more than 2 percent of the total number of people on active duty in that grade during each fiscal year.

The Air Force is projected to have 10,460 lieutenant colonels and 3,640 colonels on active duty Oct. 1. Two percent of these totals equate to a maximum of 212 lieutenant colonels and 72 colonels who may retire with the reduced time in grade in fiscal 2005.

“We are presently taking applications for retirement dates through Sept. 1, 2005, and expect a higher application acceptance rate over last year’s fiscal program, especially since our officers have more time to plan for retirement,” Major Silverman said.

“As soon as we meet the two percent ceiling, the program will close,” he said.

Officers interested in this program can call Robert Simms at Ext. 2599 or visit www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/shape2.htm.

Mission Report

As of Wednesday

T-1A Goal: 600 hrs. Flown: 620.7 hrs. T-37 Goal: 749 Flown: 788 T-38C Goal: 335 Flown: 355

Flying hours: Monday to Sept. 17: 6:15 a.m.-7:15 p.m.

Air shows play important part in Air Force mission

Capt. Wes Hales
50th Flying Training Squadron

On Sept. 1, five fellow T-38C instructor pilots and I embarked on a six-day trip to Toronto, Canada, in support of the Canadian International Air Show (CIAS). The team from Columbus AFB consisted of Capts. Mike Barron, Julian Bucur and Kent Duckwall, 1st Lts. Tim Norman, Sean Canfield and myself.

Let me start by saying that while I have been a spectator at many air shows since early childhood, this was my first opportunity to experience one as a participant. Although the approval process and mission preparation were time consuming, every minute spent beforehand was well rewarded during the five days we spent in Toronto. While participation in air shows is not the primary mission of a flying training wing, it represents one of the areas where fun and hard work combine to provide benefit to the Air Force, the pilot participants and the public as a whole.

This point was increasingly brought home to us as we played a small role in helping a remarkable team of dedicated professionals from our own country and from one of our most trusted allies execute a Labor Day weekend air show to remember.

Some might question how the Air Force benefits from

sending pilots to an air show. We saw firsthand at the CIAS several benefits our Air Force receives when American pilots participate in these aerial events. First, and perhaps most obviously, air shows provide a unique venue for recruiting efforts. An estimated 500,000 spectators were in attendance over the course of the three-day show. That’s half a million people — in this case both Canadians and Americans — who watched demonstrations and flyovers from the world’s most respected air and space force. That’s several hundred thousand children and young adults who may now be considering the U.S. or Canadian Armed Forces as a career option.

Also, air show participation allows those of us who participate to rub shoulders with pilots who fly other airframes, gaining insight into how each person and each mission contributes to the overall national defense.

Among the participants at the airshow were an F-14 demo team, the Canadian F-18 demo team, the American Super Hornet F-18 demo team, two B-1s, a C-130, an A-10 demo team, a P-51 Mustang and more. There were participants from the U.S. Air Force, Air National Guard, U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard as well as several civilians.

I had never associated with such a diverse group of professional military aviators. This was a truly unique

opportunity to view my role as a specialized undergraduate pilot training instructor pilot and Air Force member in the framework of a much larger team concept — the team that encompasses all of the services and beyond that, our nation’s allies.

Finally, and I think most importantly, air show participation revitalizes military/civilian relations and rekindles patriotism. Several hundred thousand adults and children with renewed pride and patriotism, returned to their homes, schools and civilian jobs buoyed by an awe-inspiring experience. Of course they saw some amazing demonstrations of power and precision flying; but underlying the fanfare that accompanies such events was an assurance of the unparalleled commitment to national defense from their own country and its ally.

Those of you who have been to an air show or a live fire demonstration or a Red Flag know that feeling. It’s part of what makes us proud to be Americans — the confidence that our leaders, and brothers and sisters in arms are committed to being the best.

So next time you have an opportunity to attend an air show, or better yet, be part of an air show, seize the opportunity. We have a unique opportunity at this base to host the “Wings Over Columbus” air show again in 2005 — volunteer! You and the Air Force will be better for it.

Secretary, chief send Air Force birthday message

(Editor’s note: The following is an Air Force birthday message from Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper.)

Happy birthday to the Airmen of the world’s greatest air and space force! Our 57 years of history may be short, but they are packed with astounding accomplishments.

We’ve broken the sound barrier, expanded military operations to the reaches of space, ushered stealth technology and precision-strike capability into modern warfare, delivered humanitarian aid to austere locations, jointly won the Cold War and provided decisive air and space power for wars in Korea, Vietnam, the Balkans,

Afghanistan and Iraq. Your dedication to excellence, your integrity and your faithful service is recognized and appreciated by all Americans.

Since our inception in 1947, America’s Air Force has flown lead in defending peace and freedom around the world.

That legacy was made possible by millions of professional Airmen dedicated to accomplishing critical missions with total success.

Today, you are the torchbearers of our legacy. You are performing remarkably across the globe delivering aid to people in need and defending and protecting our great nation from emerging threats and new enemies.

Your competence, dedication to the mission and pride of service is renowned. We know you also have wonderful families who support your long hours and deployments away from home. We are grateful for their support.

You represent the strength and patriotism of our great nation. America is proud of our Air Force because of you. Thanks for your service and again, happy birthday!



Service before self: Discover what it means to you

Staff Sgt. Tonya O’Toole
14th Medical Operations Squadron

I’m sure you know of at least one person — maybe even yourself — who just seems unrivaled — always volunteering, and seen at the right meetings and functions.

Look a little deeper. What motivates them? Do they feel passionately about the projects they volunteer for, or is it just “EPR fodder” leading to yet another piece of wood for the office?

Do they truly love the Air Force? Do they make sacrifices for others that will not further themselves in any way? Would

they put themselves in harm’s way for the greater good? Would they volunteer for something that they know will not be a pleasant outcome for themselves just because it was the right thing to do? Would they die to save others knowing there won’t be any display for their own personal office?

The Air Force gives many of us the opportunity to do something with our lives. We only have to prove ourselves. How many of us truly love the Air Force and this great country so much, that if we could make more money and benefits as civilians, we would still get up to put on

this uniform and potentially put ourselves in harms way? Now you are asking, “Is she crazy? Who would?”

Many people have, many times in the past. Just look at our enlisted heritage alone — common people like you and I doing extraordinary things.

Is this some romantic idea of the past? No. Just look at Pat Tillman for instance.

College educated, multi-million dollar professional football player, bright future. He didn’t join the military for college money or to see the world. He joined because he wanted to give something back to the country that gave so much to him.

He chose to enlist with the special forces because he truly wanted to make a difference and to feel like he was doing his part. He gave his life for payment of our freedoms. Every day, men and women truly put service before self, and that doesn’t always mean the big stuff. It can be as simple as quietly rescheduling your leave once in a while to accommodate and Airman with his heart set on going somewhere.

I challenge you to think about what service before self means to you — not on the surface, but deep down where only you can see. What motivates you?

People, skills make Air Force work

Lt. Col. Russell Quinn
52nd Operations Support Squadron

SPANGDAHLEM AB, Germany — “It is not the critic who counts, nor the man who points how the strong man stumbled or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; ... who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions and spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at best, knows the triumph of high achievement; and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat.” Spoken by Teddy Roosevelt, April 23, 1910, during his “Man in the Arena” speech.

So what is your story? What is it that made you choose this line of work anyway? I ask only to point out something you may not have considered.

This is an amazing time to be in the service of our country, and an even more amazing time to be a member of the U.S. Air Force. The Air Force is by far the most powerful,

precise and advanced air force that exists on Earth today. You are part of that. In fact, you are integral to that power and precision.

You need to know, whoever you are or whatever your skill level, that we would not be as strong as we are without you. Equipment is great, but the people make the Air Force work.

The individuals we work with today are the smartest, most talented and motivated group of people we will most likely ever work with in our life. We’re very lucky that they are so focused when you consider the critical nature of our current conflict.

Our window of opportunity to make a difference is a relatively small window. For some people, it will be three to four years; for others, it may be 20 to 25 years. Either way, we will spend the vast majority of our lives outside the service of our country.

There is plenty of time in the future to wake up knowing that some other individual is in the arena; right now, it’s our time. Consider that, and if you feel the same way I do, appreciate every minute, value every brother and sister in arms and continue doing the outstanding work that you do every day.

STRAIGHT TALK LINE

The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better. Although the Straight Talk Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain of command.

The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer. All names are kept confidential.

Written questions may also be brought to the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724. People can also access the Straight Talk program through the Blazeweb at <https://columbusweb> and the main Web site at www.columbus.af.mil.

Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.

Regulations for miniature motorcycles in base housing

Question: I have seen housing residents using mini-motorcycles in the past month. They are riding without helmets, shoes, shirts and reflective garments. Do these people have to meet full-size motorcycle safety requirements while riding the miniature motorcycles? Is it even legal to ride the bikes in the street? Thank you.

Answer: While mini-motorcycles and scooters are the latest rage, most are illegal to ride on roadways in Mississippi. As such, we cannot allow our personnel to ride them on base unless they are approved and registered in

accordance with Air Force Instruction 31-204, Air Force Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision. As always, our base safety personnel and security forces are standing by to address any concerns you may have in regards to motor vehicles and associated safety requirements. Please feel free to contact the law enforcement desk at Ext. 7128 to report violations. Thanks again for looking out for our most valuable resources — our people.

Col. Stephen Wilson
14th Flying Training Wing commander

Key phone numbers

Base Exchange.....434-6013
Chaplain.....434-2500
Civil Engineer Service Desk.....434-2856
Civilian Personnel.....434-2635
Clinic:
Family Practice.....434-2172
Appointment Desk.....434-2273
After Hours Care.....434-2273
Columbus Club.....434-2489
Commissary.....434-7106
Finance.....434-2706
Housing Maintenance.....434-7370
Inspector General.....434-2927
Legal Office.....434-7030
Military Equal Opportunity.....434-2546
Security Forces.....434-7129
Shoppette.....434-6026

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SILVER WINGS

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724, Columbus AFB, Miss., phone 434-7068, or e-mailed to silverwings@columbus.af.mil by 2 p.m. Friday. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary.

Grandmother tells of POW camp imprisonment

Bob Hieronymus
12th Flying Training Wing

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas — The many stories about American prisoners of war usually detail the experiences of servicemembers captured during combat overseas. There are other stories, including a little-known tale of a teenage girl, now a grandmother in San Antonio.

Liz Lautzenhiser Irvine has scrapbooks full of original documents and mementos of her three years of imprisonment in the Philippines.

Her parents had been American school teachers in the Philippines for almost 20 years when the war broke out. Ms. Irvine, who was born there, was a 14-year-old high school freshman in Manila in December 1941.

Within a 24-hour period, the day we know now as “a day that will live in infamy,” the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Guam, Midway and the Philippines. After pulling his forces back to Bataan Peninsula and Corregidor Island, on Dec. 24 Gen. Douglas MacArthur declared Manila an “open city,” hoping to preserve it as a designated neutral location. But three days later the Japanese army occupied the city and immediately seized the campus of Santo Thomas University to use as a prison for “interned enemy nationals.”

“The Santo Thomas Internment Camp, or STIC as we called it, occupied the entire 60-acre campus of the 300-year-old university,” said Ms. Irvine. “The Dominican teachers there had built a concrete wall around it to make the campus a quiet place for study, but the Japanese saw it as an ideal prison.”

At one time there had been 6,000 students

attending classes there, but very quickly it became home for 4,000 men and women prisoners. Ms. Irvine was one of those prisoners. “There were people from a dozen nations there,” she said, “Some of whom just happened to be in the Philippines when the war broke out.”

For the first two years the camp was run by civilians from the Japanese government, and living conditions were cramped but not harsh, Ms. Irvine said. Food was not plentiful, but the prisoners could buy fresh vegetables from Philippine vendors who were allowed inside the camp.

“The camp commander authorized us the equivalent of 35 cents per day per person, so we had two meals a day — watery rice, hard tack bread made with rice flour and some kind of vegetables. Occasionally there was meat, too,” she said.

Ms. Irvine explained that her grandmother, Nancy Belle Norton, along with other elderly foreign nationals, was not imprisoned at first because of her age. Luckily, she was allowed to bring food and supplies to the camp. “Sometimes she managed to smuggle in news from the outside world when she came,” Ms. Irvine said. After the war, President Harry Truman awarded Ms. Norton the Medal of Freedom for her courageous work on behalf of so many prisoners, Ms. Irvine said.

The former prisoner then explained they were allowed to have their own camp organization.

“We had our senior officials who dealt directly with the Japanese commander,” she said. “There were several camp committees, including sanitation, recreation, health, religion,

entertainment and education. Because he had experience in school administration, my dad was a member of the education committee.”

Ms. Irvine told how the education committee quickly established a school with all 12 grades.

“My dad convinced the Japanese to let us collect textbooks from what was left of schools in the city,” she said. “We learned to write very small to conserve paper. We also had tests and even report cards. I still have some of mine in my scrapbooks. By the time we were liberated, I had completed my high school work.”

The former POW went on to explain the living arrangements in the camp.

“The men and women were quartered separately in the main building,” she said. “My mother and I were together in a classroom that usually held 32 women prisoners. Our cots were all just inches apart. There was no such thing as privacy.

“We washed clothes outside in a metal trough some of the men built, and we had an old bathtub in the yard where the women washed their hair,” she said. “Everyone was assigned a job of some kind. Being cooped up so closely together, having regular work was the only way to keep our sanity.”

In 1944, operation of STIC was taken over by the Japanese army and conditions became much worse, Ms. Irvine said. The Allies were advancing across the South Pacific, and the war was not going well for the Japanese. Food rations in the camp were cut down to about 1,000 calories a day. People were dying almost every day from various tropical diseases, often compounded by malnutrition. By early 1945, rations were reduced again to about 600 calories per day.

Seventy-seven U.S. Army and Navy nurses were also prisoners in the camp.

“They were so faithful serving in the camp hospital,” Ms. Irvine said. “They included a dietician who tried to monitor the food situation and make demands for specific medicines to help the sick.”

Ms. Irvine recounted a time at the prison when three men escaped from the camp but were quickly caught.



Liz Irvine, American POW, looks at one of her scrapbooks containing documents from the war years.

Bob Hieronymus

“The camp commander forced our senior officials to watch as the escapees were executed as a warning to the rest not to try any more escapes,” she said. “By the time we were liberated, a total of 10 men were executed.”

The prisoners were able to keep up with news about the war because some engineers imprisoned in the camp managed to get enough components smuggled in to build a radio receiver. It had to be taken apart every day and hidden in various places so the Japanese soldiers couldn’t find it even though they searched for it repeatedly.

“The best news, though,” she said, “was when an American liaison plane flew low overhead and dropped a cryptic message that let us know the U.S. Army was close by.”

The hospital committee kept detailed records. They show that 390 people died in the camp of various causes. Toward the end the number of people dying every day was accelerating as the dwindling food supplies left people increasingly vulnerable to disease. However, the camp commander would not allow the medical people to list the cause of death as malnutrition because that would show neglect on the part of Japanese officials, Ms. Irvine said.

When Gen. Douglas MacArthur’s troops

landed on Luzon Island on Jan. 9, 1945, about 100 miles north of Manila, he ordered them to make a dash to liberate the camp at Santo Tomas. He was concerned the Japanese might harm the prisoners there. A small element of the Army’s 1st Cavalry Division was the first to reach the camp, smashing their tanks through the front gates during the night of Feb. 3.

Ms. Irvine recalled the excitement of seeing American soldiers as they quickly set up their artillery to defend the camp, which was their most forward position. Artillery barrages and sniper fire continued for a month in Manila before the Japanese forces were finally defeated. Ms. Irvine recalled climbing up a bombed-out building not far from the camp with a friend and watching artillery shells arcing through the air between the opposing forces.

But the former POW’s fondest memory was being liberated. Carefully turning the pages in one of her scrapbooks, the former POW pointed to a picture of an American flag hanging from the front balcony of the main camp building. It was taken by a Life magazine cameraman the day after the camp was liberated.

“I was just over here to the left of where the cameraman was,” she said. The excitement still showed in her voice as she told about that day.

POW/MIA Day: Time to reflect, say thanks

Michael Briggs
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas — “However long it takes, wherever it takes us, whatever the cost.”

Those words reflect the pledge of the more than 600 people who work everyday to locate and identify 88,000 American servicemembers still missing from World War II to present.

They are also apt words to describe the theme of the annual observance of the National Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Recognition Day that took place Tuesday.

Usually held the third Friday in September, the observance takes place earlier in the week this year out of respect for Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year holiday that ends today, according to information from the Department of Defense/Missing Personnel Office that oversees the accounting of POWs and MIAs at the national level.

Of the 600 people worldwide whose mission it is to account for missing servicemembers, 10 work in the Air Force Missing Persons Branch at the Air Force Personnel Center.

They are responsible for overseeing the Air Force POW/MIA program that seeks an accounting for the more than 1,600 Airmen missing from the Korean War, Cold War and Vietnam War, said James Russell, the Missing Persons Branch chief.

“Among all the other agencies working accounting issues, our role is to serve as the liaison to the families of Air Force members,” he said. “When we have new information relative to a case, our job is to pass that information on to the family, to discuss it with them and to help them understand what the agency is doing on their behalf.”

The branch corresponds on a regular basis with about 3,000 family members of unaccounted Airmen, he said.

Once a month at regional meetings around the United States and twice a year at national gatherings in Washington, D.C., for Korean War and Vietnam War POWs and MIAs, the Air Force Missing Persons Branch provides in-person updates to family members.

The meetings provide general information about ongoing recovery

operations, as well as case-specific details about each family’s missing member, Mr. Russell said.

POW/MIA Recognition Day helps support America’s personnel accounting efforts in a couple of ways, he said.

“First, it is a day of reverence and reflection for the people who never came home in making the ultimate sacrifice for their nation,” Mr. Russell said. “It’s also a time to thank the POWs and MIAs who did return.”

Secondly, the observance lets those in uniform today know of their nation’s resolve, he added.

“It sends a message to our current day Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors and Marines that we are not going to forget them,” Mr. Russell said. “We, as a nation, will do everything in our power to bring them home.”

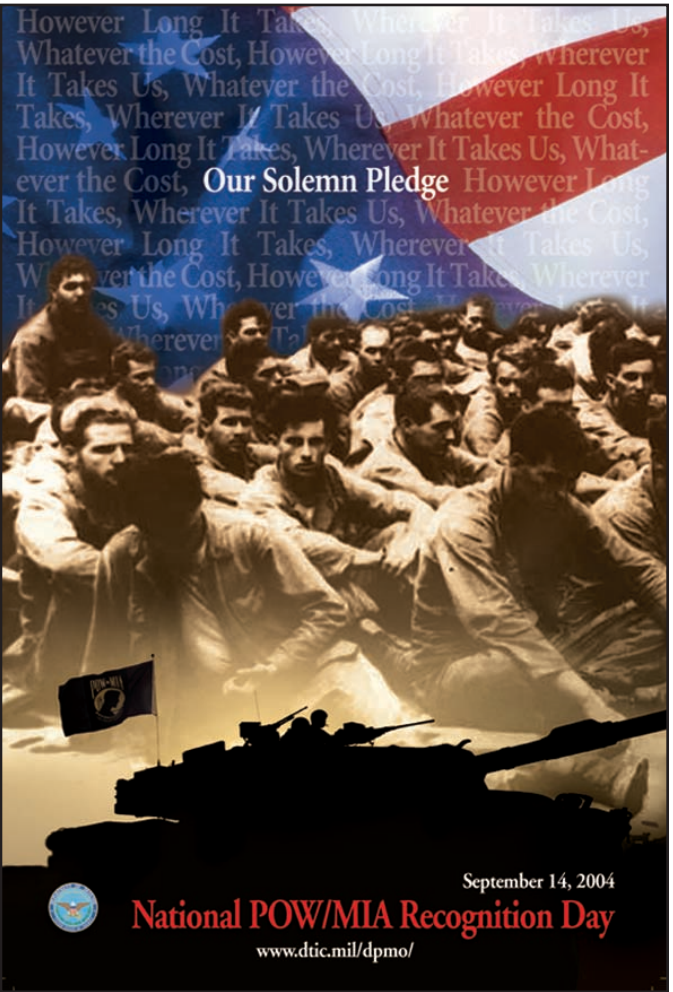
The missing persons program, with 14 recovery operations and field activities scheduled in 2004, provides closure for several families each year.

So far this year, the remains of 12 Air Force members have been identified. The past three years, 31 members were identified and returned to their families.



Courtesy photo

Liz Lautzenhiser Irvine, third from right, and two other former women prisoners of war talk with Army soldiers in 1945 three weeks after they were liberated from the Santo Tomas Internment Camp in Manila, Philippines.



AT THE CHAPEL**Catholic****Sunday:**

9:15 a.m. — Mass

10:30 a.m. — CCD

5 p.m. — Confessions

5:30 p.m. — SUPT Mass

Protestant**Sunday:**

9 a.m. — Sunday school

10:45 a.m.— Traditional worship

1 p.m. — Contemporary worship

Tuesday:

10:30 a.m. — Ladies Bible study

Noon — Lunch and Bible study

Wednesday:

5 p.m. — Bible study potluck

6 p.m. — Bible study, Pioneer

Clubs, teen ministries

For information about other services, call the chapel at Ext. 2500.

AT THE MOVIES

All movies are shown at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted, at the base theater.

Today*“The Manchurian Candidate”* (R, violence and some language, 130 min.)

Starring: Denzel Washington and Meryl Streep.

Saturday*“The Village”* (PG-13, a scene of violence and frightening situations, 120 min.)

Starring: Judy Greer and Bryce Dallas Howard.

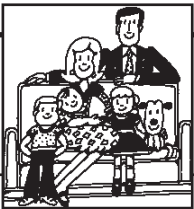
Sept. 24*“Collateral”* (R, violence and language, 127 min.)

Starring: Tom Cruise and Jamie Foxx.

For more information about movies, visit www.cafbgrapevine.com.CHANNEL 64

BLAZE 64 offers announcements for people living in base housing or the dormitories.

For more information, call the public affairs office at Ext. 7068.

Weekdays**9 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.***Air Force Television News*FAMILY SUPPORT*(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call Ext. 2790.)***Financial management:** A personal financial management workshop with information on various aspects of money management and control, savings and investment is from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday.**Money and marriage:** This financial management workshop for newlyweds and premarital couples is at 4 p.m. Tuesday. Topics include money personalities, budgeting, positive and negative aspects of joint accounts, inheriting debt, financial responsibilities and more.**Life balance:** A workshop on how to achieve work and family balance is from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday. Participants will learn tools for identifying priorities, setting goals and ideas for getting organized at work and home. People must register no later than Sept. 20.**Hearts Apart Social:** A social gathering for families of personnel deployed or remote for more than 30 days is at 5:30 p.m. Thursday. Information, refreshments and prizes are provided.**WIC:** Women with military identification cards who are pregnant and/or have a child younger than five years old may qualify for food supplements under the Women, Infants and Children program. For an appointment to determine financial eligibility, call Ext. 2790.**Air Force Aid Society:** The AFAS offers 24-hour emergency assistance. Possible aid includes interest-free loans and grants for items such as rent, food, utilities, car repairs and emergency travel.**Relocation assistance:** People who are making a permanent change of station can stop by the family support center for information about other bases, checklists to make moves easier and ideas for easy traveling with children.**Remote/deployment briefing:** Military personnel going remote or being deployed must attend a mandatory briefing held daily at 9 a.m.BASE NOTES**Housing maintenance:** Many new homes in Magnolia Village need mold removed from the exterior. Residents can check out power washers from the Pride Store. For more information, call Ext. 7372.**OCF activities:** The Officers' Christian Fellowship kick-off dinner is at 5 p.m. Saturday at the chapel annex. In partnership with Air Force chapels, the OCF has equipped military personnel and their families for spiritual leadership and service for decades. Both military and civilian BLAZE TEAM members are invited. Highlights include a presentation about the organization and new Bible study opportunities. To sign up, contact Maj. Ken Crane at 434-6356 or kenneth.crane@columbus.af.mil.

An OCF Bible study meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Mondays at the chapel annex. The fellowship is open to all BLAZE TEAM members and begins with a short series on the special challenges facing military marriages. For more information or to arrange

complimentary child care, call 434-6356.

ASIST: Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training is from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 29 and Sept. 30 at the chapel. The training is open to all BLAZE TEAM members. However, it is highly recommended for supervisors.

The training will enhance individuals' skills to intervene until either the immediate risk of suicide is reduced or additional life-assistance resources can be found. For more information, call Ext. 2239.

OSC Social: The spouses from the 50th Flying Training Squadron sponsor a Columbus Officers' Spouses' Club costume Halloween bingo social at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 12 at the Columbus Club. The menu is vegetable lasagna. Cost is \$9.50 per person, and club members receive a \$2 discount. New members are welcome. To sign up, call Cammy Cheater at 434-8915 by noon Oct. 7.**BLAZE TEAM picnic:** The 14th Flying Training Wing end-of-year picnic is from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sept. 30 behind the community center. Free food, beverages, musical entertainment and activities such as sumo wrestling, jousting, softball, volleyball, horseshoes and more will be available. For more information, call Ext. 7450.

Airman Alexis Lloyd

United nations**Second Lts. Samer Al-Qadhi of Yemen, SUPT Class 04-15, and Ivan Guerrero of Honduras, SUPT Class 05-13, prepare to hang a flag in the Freedom Park pavilion during a cookout Sept. 11. During the event, international students grew better acquainted with each other and their sponsors from the Columbus area.**Massage therapy promotes relaxation and self-healing**Pam Wickham**

Marketing specialist

The community center offers massage therapy from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays by appointment only.

“Massage is a great way to rejuvenate, relax and have time for yourself,” said Dena McGuff, massage therapist. “It’s great for anyone — from infants to adults.”

By definition, massage therapy is the scientific and systematic manipulation of the soft tissue of the body.

There are many reasons to receive a massage, but the main reasons are to promote relaxation and self-healing, said Ms. McGuff. In addition to creating physiologic, mechanical or psychological balance, it can also relieve pain, increase flexibility and range of motion.

Massage also opens up blood vessels,

thereby improving circulation.

“I came in with chronic neck tension and received nearly instant relief,” said client Ann Rogers. “It was fabulous.”

Ms. McGuff also provides ear candling, which is a natural way to clean out accumulated wax and fungus from the ears.

“The process is a painless, harmless and relaxing experience,” Ms. McGuff said. “It is suggested to consider ear candling every six months.”

The process takes about 45 minutes per session, and candling can help with headaches, ear infections, excessive wax, migraines and chronic sinusitis.

A one-hour, full-body massage is \$60, a half-hour session is \$30, 15 minutes on the table is \$25 or 15-minutes in the chair is \$15. Ear candling is \$35.

For an appointment or for more information, call the community center at Ext. 7450.



Pam Wickham

Dena McGuff, registered massage therapist, gives a back massage to a client.Services provides BLAZE TEAM families with choices**Champagne Sunday brunch:** The Columbus Club serves a variety of breakfast and lunch items from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Cost is \$9.95 for club members and \$11.95 for nonmembers. Ages 6 through 12 eat for half price, and ages 5 and younger eat free. Call Ext. 2490.**All-you-can-eat lunch buffets:** The Columbus Club offers these buffets Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday is breakfast, Wednesday is Southern, Thursday is Mexican and Friday is catfish. Call Ext. 2490.**Football Frenzy:** The enlisted lounge opens its doors to all-ranks every Monday night at 7 p.m. to watch football games and to give away prizes. Club members can also enter a drawing for a trip to the Super Bowl. Call Ext. 2490.**All-you-can-eat pasta buffet:** The Columbus Club offers this evening buffet from 5 to 8 p.m. Sept. 24. Cost is \$8.95 for club members and \$10.95 for nonmembers. Call Ext. 2490.**Disc Jockey Kleve:** Disc Jockey Kleve entertains from 7 to 11 p.m. Sept. 24 at the enlisted lounge. Call Ext. 2490.**Casino trip:** The information, ticket and travel office offers this trip to Philadelphia,

Miss., Sept. 24. Cost is \$15 per person and includes transportation and \$15 in coins. For reservations, call Ext. 7861.

Youth center dance: The youth center offers a dance for preteens and teens from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Sept. 25. Cost is \$1 for members and \$2 for nonmembers. Call Ext. 2504.**Stampin' Up class:** This hands-on workshop is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 25. Five different projects are available for participants. Cost is \$10 per person. To register, call Ext. 7450.**Educational videos:** Dignity Memorial Escape School videos are available for check-out at the library. The videos teach children to recognize potentially dangerous situations, and equip them with the mental tools to avoid and escape abduction. This educational program also initiates important dialog between parents and children. Call Ext. 2934.**Openings at base stables:** Empty stalls with paddocks are available for rent at the base stables. A riding area, wash rack, round pen and five pastures are also available. For more information, call Ext. 2507.**Colossal bingo coming soon:** A big bucks bingo program will be offered on Monday evenings starting at 7 p.m. in the community center ballroom. Cash prizes up to \$10,000. Date to be announced. Call Ext. 2490.

Katey Miranda

Story time**Pat Jones, library technician, offers a 30-minute story time program at 10 a.m. Wednesdays at the library for ages 3 to 5. Parents are asked to remain in the library during story time. Call Ext. 2934.**

Sodas for Siblings: A Sodas for Siblings class is from 2 to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Oktibbeha County Hospital Educational Facility. The course teaches future brothers and sisters how to adjust to changes created by a new baby. To register, call (662) 615-3364.

Inspirational music: A free, gospel-inspired live music show is at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Columbus lock and dam amphitheater. For more information, call 328-4466.

Parenting workshop: The Families First Resource Center sponsors an Active Parenting of Teens workshop from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday. Call (662) 244-0273.

MOPS: Mothers of Preschoolers meet from 9 to 11 a.m. every second and fourth Tuesday at Hope Community Church for encouragement and socialization. Childcare is provided for children up to six years old. For more information, call 434-6862.

Hunting safety: A hunter safety brief is from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Sept. 25 at New Hope High School. Classes are free, but people must preregister by calling (662) 840-5172. In Mississippi, people born on or after Jan. 1, 1972 are required to complete a 10-hour hunter education course before purchasing a hunting license. For more information, visit www.mdwfp.com/default.asp.

Trash to treasures: Beta Sigma Phi chapter Epsilon Lambda sponsors a trash to treasures event from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 9 at the Columbus fair grounds. Arts, crafts, antiques and collectibles will be available. For more information, call 329-8783 or 328-5147.

Used cell phone drive: The North Mississippi Medical Center sponsors a used cell phone drive through Oct. 15 to help protect victims of domestic violence in Tupelo, Eupora, Iuka, Pontotoc and West Point, Miss. For more information, call (800) 843-3375.

Centennial celebration: The town of Caledonia celebrates its centennial anniversary from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 16 in downtown Caledonia and at Ola J. Pickett Park. For more information, call (662) 356-4117.

Dog obedience classes: Dog obedience classes are held at 6 p.m. now through Oct. 19 at Propst Park in downtown Columbus. For more information, call 327-4935 or 242-7023.

Drivers needed: The local chapter of Disabled American Veterans seeks volunteers to transport veterans to and from the Veteran Affairs hospital in Jackson, Miss. Volunteers do not have to be veterans. Presently, the van runs to and from Jackson every Wednesday, but service may increase due to demand. For more information, call (662) 243-2334.

For more event listings, visit www.columbus-ms.org.

BARGAIN LINE

Bargain Line advertisement

The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.

Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.

Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.

Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

Type of advertisement (circle one): Home Transportation Miscellaneous Yard sales Pets

Print advertisement: _____

Name: _____

Home Telephone #: _____ Duty Telephone #: _____
(in case we need more information)

Please let us know what you think of the Silver Wings:

Are you happy with the Silver Wings? Yes ☐ No ☐

What would you like to see more of in the newspaper? News ☐ Sports ☐ Photos ☐

If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at silverwings@columbus.af.mil.

SHORTS

Intramural sports

The fall season of intramural sports is approaching and dependents are encouraged to participate. To be eligible, dependents 16 years and older need to contact a unit or squadron sports representative. A list of representatives is located at the fitness center. Fall sports include flag football, golf, and bowling. For more information, call David Hoffecker at Ext. 7618 or the fitness center at Ext. 2772.

Soccer camp

Columbus AFB hosts the Air Force Soccer Trial Camp Jan. 6 through Jan. 23. The deadline for completing Air Force Form 303, Request for Specialized Sports Training, is Nov. 1. All military personnel interested in participating in the camp must complete the AF Form 303 or contact the fitness center at Ext. 2772.

Karate/Judo classes

Karate classes are offered from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays at the community center. Cost is \$45 per month. The community center also offers Judo classes from 4 to 6 p.m. Thursdays. Cost is \$35 per month. For more information about the classes, call Ext. 7450.

Senior fitness

A senior fitness class is from 9 to 10 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the community center. Cost is \$5 a week or \$2 per class. This low-impact class is open to all BLAZE TEAM members and is sponsored by the health and wellness center. For more information, call Ext. 7450.

Air Force beats Army, 16-3, wins softball championship

Sarah Anne Carter
96th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

EGLIN AFB, Fla. — The 2004 Armed Forces Men’s Softball Championship ended here Sept. 11 with the Air Force defeating the Army, 16-3, to win the gold.

On Day 3 of the tournament, the Army had its second loss of the tournament to the Navy, but still could have taken it all since the championship game is a head-to-head game. Winner takes all.

The game started off slowly with no runs until the bottom of the second inning when Air Force first baseman Kevin Quigg hit a home run and brought Scott Harris in with him. The second inning ended with Air Force up 2-0.

However, the Army took the lead back in the third inning when Army outfielder Dexter Avery hit a home run, bringing outfielder Michael Dochwat in with him. The Air Force could not answer, so the inning ended with the Army up 3-2.

After that, the Air Force decided to

take the game seriously. The Army had three up and three down in the fourth inning, and then the Air Force was up to bat. Their first out was followed by five solid hitters and five runs. Their second out was followed by another five solid hitters, including two home runs by Scott Roe and Dale Back, plus another five runs. The end of the fourth had the Air Force ahead 12-3 and only three runs away from the enforcement of the 12-run mercy rule that would end the game.

The fifth inning brought the Army another three up, three down when Air Force pitcher Anthony Patrick caught Dochwat’s line drive. The Air Force started with a solid base hit by Chad Malin who was brought in when Harris hit a home run. With two more solid base hits by Quigg and Timothy Baldwin, the Air Force finished off the game with a home run by Christopher Markey. The game ended 16-3.

“This is the best team I’ve ever played for,” Markey said. “We had the chemistry and talent, and there was no destroying our team.”

While the Army played well

throughout the whole tournament, they could only beat the Air Force once.

The Navy ended the tournament with three wins and six losses.

After the silver and gold medals were awarded, the members of the all-tournament and armed forces teams were announced. The members of the Armed Forces team will compete Sept. 16 to 19 in the Men’s Major Slow Pitch National Championship Finals in Sanford, Fla.

Representing the Air Force on the All-Tournament Team are Patrick from Hill AFB, Utah; Dale Back from Lackland AFB, Texas; and Randy Wilhide from Spangdahlem AB, Germany.

Airmen on the Armed Forces Team include Patrick; Quigg from Offutt AFB, Neb.; Back; Markey from Ramstein AB, Germany; Baldwin from Fairchild AFB, Wash.; Wilhide; and Toby Urenda from Eglin AFB. They will be coached by Stephen Shortland from Randolph AFB, Texas, and assistant coach Randy Raper from Malmstrom AFB, Mont.

On your mark ... Get set ... Go!

The 14th Flying Training Wing wishes the following Airmen good luck as they represent Columbus AFB Saturday in the 8th Annual Air Force Marathon at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio:

Lee Baker, 14th Operations Support Squadron; **Matt Beebe**, 48th Flying Training Squadron; **Anthony Dant**, 14th Mission Support Squadron; **Wesley Hales**, 50th FTS; **Gaines Johnston**, 43rd FTS; **Michael Kendrick**, 43rd FTS; **Jessica Kidman**, 14th OSS; **Edward Kim**, 41st FTS; **Brian Knauf**, 41st FTS; **Jennifer Moore**, 14th Flying Training Wing; **Shannon Prasek**, 50th FTS; **David Romo-Garza**, 14th Contracting Squadron; **Donnie Shelton**, 14th OSS; and **Lashon Webb**, 14th MSS.



AF finishes 8th at Falcon invitational

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — The Air Force Academy golf team saved its best round for last, shooting a 289 on the final day of the Gene Miranda Falcon Invitational held at the par-71 Eisenhower Blue Golf Course here Sept. 11.

The Falcons finished in a tie for eighth-place with Weber State University at 887. Southern Utah State University took home the team title with a three-round total of 869, while University of Wyoming’s Jeff Franks, competing unattached, earned medalist honors with a four-under 209.

The Falcons were led by sophomore Ben Jackman who shot an even 71 in the final round to finish in a tie for 17th (plus 7, 220). The rest of the Falcons were each a stroke apart as junior captain Scott Redmond tied for 26th at 10-over, Daryl McCoy was tied for 32nd at 11-over and Kala’e Leong was in a tie for 35th (plus 12). Wrapping up the competition for Air Force was sophomore Tyler Goulding who was in a tie for sixth following the first round, but struggled down the stretch to finish in a tie for 41st at 12 over par.

Boise State University, which posted the lowest round of the day at 287, finished second in the team standings at 874, while Grand Canyon University was third at 879. Mountain West competitors Utah and Wyoming were tied for fourth (882), followed by Utah Valley State (883) and Gonzaga (885) universities in sixth and seventh, respectively. Rounding out the top 10 was Utah State with a three-round score of 896.

The Air Force junior varsity squad moved up a spot in the team results, finishing 14th in the 15-team field with a final round of 295. Junior captain Christian Jackson led the team with a total of 225, tying for 25th overall. Meanwhile, sophomore Chad Follett turned in the best round of any Falcon during the tournament, shooting a one-under 70.

The Falcons play again Sept. 26 and 27, when they head to Dallas to compete in the annual Service Academy Classic. Air Force will join Army, Navy and the Merchant Marines in a battle to claim the Reemtsma Trophy, awarded to the champion each year. The Falcons have won the trophy for the past nine straight years. *(Courtesy of Air Force Print News Service)*

BLAZE TEAM contributes to United Way’s Day to Care



Airman Alexis Lloyd
Staff Sgt. Erreca Weaver, 14th Comptroller Squadron, spreads mulch at the 4-H Club of Lowndes County during Day to Care 2004.



1st Lt. Jennifer Moore
Staff Sgt. Jennifer Beaupre, 14th Mission Support Group, prunes a flowerbed at Recovery House.



1st Lt. Jennifer Moore

Left: Master Sgt. Curtis Chiles, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, prepares to paint a room at the Columbus Community Volunteer Center.

Left: Senior Airman Jonathan McQuaig, 14th MDOS, Staff Sgt. Jeremy Miller, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron, 2nd Lt. John Trentini, 14th MDOS, and Chaplain (Capt.) Brian Hochhalter, 14th Flying Training Wing, relocate a boulder while landscaping the memorial garden at Recovery House.



1st Lt. Jennifer Moore

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”
~ Margaret Mead